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NEW LIFE FOR AN OLD CANNERY

by
David Phillips

Recently, while on an Alaskan cruise, I had the occasion to visit the rehabilitated 94 year old Hoonah Packing Company fish cannery at Icy Strait Point. A bay off this strait cuts dramatically into Chichagof Island, which in turn lies 50 miles west of Juneau.

The cannery, originally built in 1912, and run, on and off until finally closing in 1953, has been acquired by a native corporation from the Tlingit village of Hoonah, one mile away.

The cannery has been refurbished with some of its original machinery restored to working order and its many buildings rehabilitated. Twelve gift shops offer Alaska crafts and wares interspersed amongst the historic displays.

Of interest to numismatic collectors are the following two items:

-Upon arrival, via tender from the cruise ship, at the cannery dock, visitors are met by a Tlingit host who presents each guest with a small envelope containing a card and a cedar chip.



Your cedar chip is a symbol of all that defines this wondrous place; the sea, the wilderness, our history and culture. In keeping with tradition of all those who visit Icy Strait Point, contribute your cedar chip and sustain the light of the fire at Campfire Point, sharing in the legacy of all who set foot on these shores.

TLINGIT
Yaa Kees Koostee Haa geet aa tee
Kaa yaa xaan haa oo daichi
Kaa yaa s'eek tsu yeex aa Kustee
Aa Geex aa tee nuch

ENGLISH
The sea brings life.
Fire brings communion.
Smoke spreads our spirit.
The ash gives birth to new life.



-Later in the day, when guests gather at the dock to be tendered back to the cruise ship, again a Tlingit host appeared

continued on page 58.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS PRICES REALIZED

Dave Phillips does double duty in this issue. We had heard a news item about the Hoonah cannery being converted into a cultural center. It is nice to have a first hand account. In his continuing column **Money to Burn**, Dave looks at the Salty Dawg Saloon in Homer. It is truly a state landmark.

Special thanks to Lee Poleske of Seward for his feedback on two Seward tokens featured in **Mystery Tokens** last month.

We have a couple pages of Military Challenge Coins this month. There are more where these came from! Thanks Kurtis.

If you like things antarctic, then look at page 64. There is a gem of an antarctic collectible.

There are a couple of newly discovered old tokens in **For the Record** worthy of note. Your editor is a bit jealous of these discoveries!

We have what we think will be interesting articles in mind for the next few months. However, we would be willing to displace them for your article! We always welcome readers to submit articles that they think others might find of interest. Even if the subject is quite narrow and of limited interest (so you think) to others, give it a shot.

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| | |
|---|---------------|
| Cleary , Totem, 12½¢, B-4a | 27.98 |
| Cordova , Johnston, 12½¢, B-21b | 125.00OB |
| Cordova , Model Dispensary, 12½¢, B-26a | 150.00OB |
| Cordova , White Co., 6¼¢, B-40a | 103.51 |
| Cordova , Windsor Hotel, 6¼¢, B-41a | OB95.00NB |
| Douglas , Douglas Cigar, 5¢, B-9a | 95.00OB |
| Douglas , Douglas Bar, 6¼¢, B-8b | 275.00OB |
| Excursion Inlet , A&PCSC Co., \$1, B-1e "s" | OB95.00NB |
| Fairbanks , University Coach, 12½¢, B-T8a | 46.00 |
| (Goodnews Bay) , Rutlader, \$5, B-2d | 75.00OB |
| Hot Springs , Morrison's, 5¢, B-1a | 47.58 |
| Juneau , Burford, 12½¢, B-12b, holed | 60.00OB |
| Juneau , Grotto, no denom., B-27a | 197.50 |
| Juneau , Heidelberg Bar, 6¼¢, B-28a | 195.00OB |
| Juneau , Tony's Comet, 12½¢, B-69a | OB40.00NB |
| Juneau , Tony's Place, 12½¢, B-70a | OB75.00NB |
| (Juneau) , Garnick for Senate, round encased | OB50.00NB |
| (Juneau) , Garnick for House, horseshoe enc. | OB50.00NB |
| Ketchikan , (Moose) Lodge 224, 12½¢, B-28a | 150.00OB |
| Kodiak , SS Yale, 25¢, alum., unlisted metal, B-16 | 132.37 |
| Kodiak , Brown Bear Bus, Return Fare, B-T1aI | 20.00NB |
| Nabesna , Nabesna Trd. Co., \$1, B-1a | OB75.00NB |
| Nome , Columbia, 1 Drink | 158.05 |
| Nome , Lomen Bros., 25¢, B-30a | 178.60 |
| Odiak , Storey, no denomination, B-1a | 308.33 |
| Palmer , ARRC, 1¢, B-1a | 65.35 |
| Palmer , ARCC, Complete set, B-1 | OB799.00NB |
| Petersburg , Cruz, 5¢, B-2a | 195.00OB |
| Petersburg , PC&NP Co., \$1, B-8f | 175.00NB |
| Russian River , Henton's Lodge, 1 Drink, B-1a | 80.00OB |
| Seward , Seward Bar, 12½¢, B-14a | 34.97 |
| Skagway , Shooting Gallery, 10¢, B-25aII | 65.00OB |
| Valdez , Copper Block Buffet, \$1 B-4cI | RLOB1595.00NB |
| Valdez , Copper Block Buffet, \$1 B-4cI | RLOB1595.00NB |
| Wacker , Wacker Trans., 10¢ Fare, B-T3b | 107.50 |
| Wrangell , Dalgity, 10¢, B-2b | 175.00OB |
| Wrangell , Ft. Wrangell Beer Hall, 5¢, B-3a | OB75.00NB |
| AYPE , 1 DWT, jewelry | 151.50 |
| Alaska Gold , 1 "No Pinch," 1897, round | 356.00! |

OB = Opening Bid NB = No Bid RL = relist
 RNM = Reserve Not Met R = Reserve
 BIN = Buy it now DNS = Did Not Sell

| | |
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HOONAH, CONT.



on the dock and presented everyone with an aluminum token. These tokens, on one side are replicas of the tokens issued years ago by the cannery for redemption in its company store (samples of original tokens are on display amongst the historic artifacts). The other side is a contemporary design with a paddle exemplifying the Hoonah native corporation's view; Pulling Together.

* * * * *

We can offer the following tokens from Hoonah:

Hoonah Packing Company

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 5 Cents in trade, B-1a | 12.00 |
| 10 Cents in trade, B-1b | 15.00 |
| 25 Cents in trade, B-1c | 15.00 |
| 50 Cents in trade, B-1dI | 25.00 |
| 50 Cents in trade, B-1dII | 30.00 |
| \$1 in trade, B-1e | 50.00 |

Icy Straits Salmon Company

Set of 4, 10¢ to \$1 in trade, B-2, a-d 100.00
Please include \$4 for postage and insurance.

GIVE BLOOD, GET FOOD



FAIRBANKS: Blood Bank of Alaska/The Grille. Give blood, get second meal at ½ price. Red and black on white card, actual size 69mm by 76mm.

GOLD TOKENS!!!

And the good news is....

I made the Fortymile gold work. With the use of a different flux when melting the gold, I was able to pour an ingot that I could roll down to .6mm, the thickness needed for the 1 DWT tokens.

This new flux is comprised of silica, borax, sodium nitrate and sodium bicarbonate. I was instructed to completely cover the gold with it. When heated, a layer of molten glass formed over the gold. One of two things happened that solved my problem of brittle, porous gold: 1) the new flux sucked out the impurities causing the problem, or 2) because of the layer of molten glass, I was able to heat the gold to a higher temperature.

I tend to think it was #2, but it does not matter. I don't have to send the Fortymile gold to a refiner.

Tokens have been struck from gold from Dome Creek in the Fortymile. These have been marked with an "M" to indicate the source of the gold. M was used because I did not want to use D or F. On Byzantine coins, M = 40. How is that for obscure?

We can now offer the following tokens. Please note that there have been some price changes.



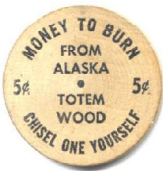
1 DWT, #63, 65, 67, 68; Nome gold "N" \$75.00
1 DWT, #88, 90-94; Fortymile gold "M" \$65.00



#5-04 #5-05 #5-06 Rev.
5 DWT, gold from an unidentified location \$225.00
Only 3 available. Select the one you want and include second choice. "5" is stamped over 1 on obverse. Reverse is the same as the 1 DWT.

Please include \$4 for postage and insurance per order.

MONEY TO BURN



SALTY DAWG SALOON, HOMER

When recently travelling in Homer, Alaska, I searched out the historic Salty Dawg Saloon on Homer Spit. It is as shown in the wooden drink token (both old and new), and has an interesting history.

The Saloon is actually composed of four buildings, all connected and incorporated into one enterprise.



One building was one of Homer's first cabins, built in 1897. It served as the first Post Office, a railroad station, a grocery store, a coal mining office and an oil company office. It was finally opened as the Salty Dawg Saloon in 1957.

The second building, also a venerable old building, built in 1909, and having also served as the Post Office, a store and a residence, was joined to the original building in the late 1950s.

The third building was thought to have been used as an early school house, and was also spliced into the above two in the late 1950s.

After the disastrous 1964 Alaska earthquake and subsequent flooding, the three amalgamated buildings were moved to their present site and the tower was added (to cover a water storage tank). It is not an official lighthouse, despite its appearance. However, when the bar is open, the light in the tower is on.

This place is a "must see" when visiting Homer.

The older wooden tokens show a larger version of the Salty Dawg Saloon. The lettering is also larger.



The current token shows exactly the same view of the saloon, but a slightly smaller version with smaller lettering.



The obverses are the same. Both are printed red on wood.

Of particular interest to wooden token collectors - 2007 is the 50th anniversary of the Salty Dawg Saloon. I have it on good authority there is to be a special 50th anniversary wooden token put out by the Salty Dawg for 2007!

RED DOG MINE



We recently found this on Northwest Territorial Mint's website. One ounce silver, 39mm.

MILITARY CHALLENGE COINS



ALASKA-MONGOLIA: State Partnership, Bridging the Land of Blue Sky with the Land of the Midnight Sun. Red, white, blue and yellow enamel on bronze. Alaska National Guard units have trained in Mongolia!

ELMENDORF AFB: 19th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, Gamecocks. Red, white, light blue, dark blue on silver (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ALASKA et al: Dept. of the Air Force, 6th Field Investigations Region; Guam, Hawaii, Alaska, Korea and Japan. Red, white, light blue, dark blue enamel on bronze.

ELMENDORF AFB: 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight. Red, white, blue and yellow on bronze(?) (Kurtis Hawk).



(ALASKA)?: 18th AMU, Arctic Beast, Falcon Maintenance. Obviously, they maintain aircraft, but where? Red, white, light blue and dark blue enamel on bronze.

ELMENDORF AFB: 3rd Communications Squadron, Wired for War the World Over. Blue, yellow and green enamel on silver (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ELMENDORF AFB: 19th Fighter Squadron, Gamecocks. Bronze (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

ELMENDORF AFB: 3rd Wing, 3rd Equipment Maint. Sq., Arctic Warriors. Pale blue, blue, black and yellow on silver.

MILITARY CHALLENGE COINS, cont.



ELMENDORF AFB: 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, Commander's Coin of Excellence. Light blue, dark blue, black and yellow on silver (Kurtis Hawk).



(ELMENDORF AFB): 3rd Medical Group, Medical Readiness Flight. Red, green, black and yellow on silver (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

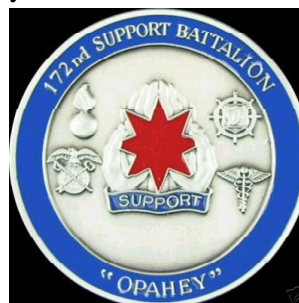


ELMENDORF AFB: Professional Military Education Center, Leading into the future. Yellow, red, black, dark blue, and light blue on bronze.

ELMENDORF AFB: Professional Military Education center. Dark blue, lt. blue, red and yellow on silver (submitted by Kurtis Hawk). Illustrated next column.



ELMENDORF AFB: SINCO Induction; Integrity First, Service before Self, Excellence in all we do. Blue, yellow, white and red on bronze.



(FT. WAINWRIGHT): 172nd Support Battalion, Arctic Warrior Brigade. Red, blue and white on silver. Reported by Kurtis Hawk as Elmendorf AFB. The 172nd is base at Ft. Wainwright and Ft Richardson. This is the unit that just had it stay in Iraq extended.

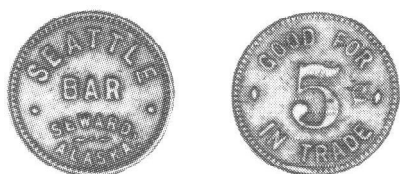


(FT. WAINWRIGHT): 4th Bn., 123rd. Avn. Regt. Bronze.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most Challenge Coins are about 38mm to 40mm, though some are larger. All are shown at approximately 38mm, but it must be realized this may not be correct unless a size is given.

MYSTERY TOKEN FEEDBACK

SEATTLE BAR OR SALOON



Seward was founded August 28, 1903. When the first issue of the first Seward newspaper, the “Seward Gateway” came out on April 19, 1904 and advertisement in that paper for the Seattle Saloon said it had the “only pool table in Seward.” So we can assume the Seattle Saloon was built some time between August 1903 and April 1904. It was located at the corner of 4th Avenue and Washington Street. It was owned by Charles Tecklenburg.

In 1905 when the building was being remodeled a partner, J.M. Cummings is mentioned. The “Gateway” reported that Tecklenburg bought him out in 1906.

Somewhere along the line the name became the Seattle Bar.

In 1914 Charles Benson is reported as partner. The bar closed in January 1918 when Alaska’s Bone Dry Law took affect, and the owners began plans to convert it into a motion picture theater. The Seattle Theater opened March 3, 1918. There was local objection to the name and it was renamed Liberty Theater, perhaps because of the patriotism engendered by World War I. The theater operated until February 7, 1943, when the building burned down. The Liberty Theater was rebuilt on Adams Street and Tecklenburg built a new building on the old site. It started as a department store, later bought by the local Elks, who sold it last year. It has just opened as a restaurant.

SEWARD CLUB

The first mention of the Seward Club, a bar, in the “Seward Gateway” newspaper is in a list of businesses in Seward in 1906.

In 1914 the building in which it was located was bought by the Brown and Hawkins Store and remodeled for its hardware department.



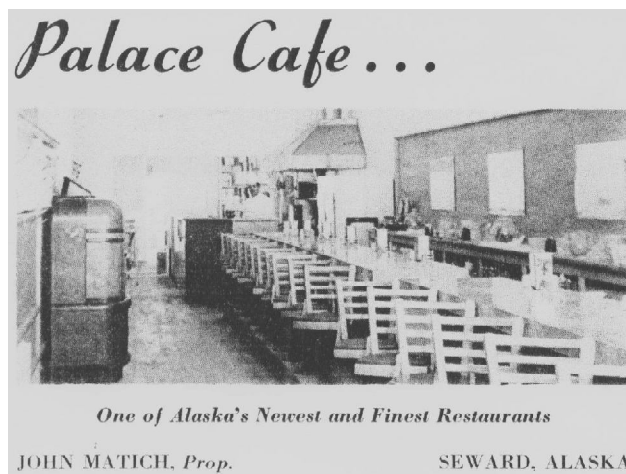
The Seward Club must have relocated because in 1916, it was reported that Frank L. Torrey bought out H.E. Hopkin’s interest in the Seward Club. After the imposition of prohibition Christ Larsen operated the Club, featuring candies, soft drinks, tobacco products and card tables.

It was still listed as a Seward business in 1924.

After the end of prohibition there is no record of the Seward Club obtaining a liquor license and there is no further mention of it in the newspapers.

-Lee Poleske

Information from the “Seward Daily Gateway,” “Seward Gateway,” and Mary Barry’s three volume history of Seward, *Seward, Alaska A History of the Gateway City*.

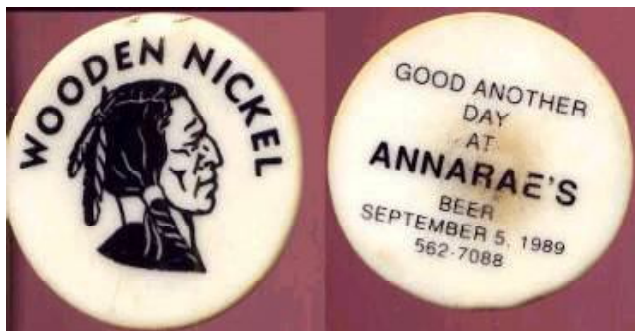


From 1944 “Alaska Life” (submitted by Ron Benice).



“Seward Alaska, The Gateway to the Interior”

FOR THE RECORD



(ANCHORAGE): Annarae's, Beer. Black on white plastic, 38mm (Ken Rieck).



ANCHORAGE: Eddie's Sports Bar, one drink. Black on wood (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



(ANCHORAGE): Nonchalance, good for one drink. Black on pale green plastic, 38mm (Ken Rieck).



ANCHORAGE: Timeout Lounge, good for one call drink. Black on red plastic, 28mm (Ken Rieck).

CHUGIAK: Thunderbird Lounge, Ekluta Lodge, one drink. Black on white plastic (submitted by Kurtis Hawk)

HOONAH: L. Kane, 25¢ for check cashing purposes only. Black on white plastic, 28mm. (These are illustrated in the next column).



(KODIAK): S.S. Yale, 25¢, aluminum, 23mm, unlisted in this metal. Previously reported in our March/April issue of this year, sold on eBay for the opening bid of \$75. This example appears to be a better strike. PR \$132.37.



PELICAN: Marion's Pelican Bar & Grill, no denomination. Gold on blue plastic.



WASILLA: Roadside Inn, good for one drink. About 30mm, blue aluminum.

FOR THE RECORD



WASILLA: VFW Post 9365, one free drink. Aluminum, 32mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ALASKA: Northern Alaska Combined Federal Campaign, 05. A United Way type of campaign?? Red, white and blue on silver (size unknown).



ALASKA/YUKON: A.Y.T. Co. (Alaska Yukon Transportation Co.) St. Hubert, 50¢. Brass, 21mm. A California based firm transporting miners to St. Michael, Alaska. Did the St. Hubert make the trip? See ATC&PN Sept/Oct. 1999. (submitted by David Byard).



(WHITEHORSE, YT): City Bakery, good for one small loaf of bread. Aluminum, 24mm. A large loaf token is already attributed to Whitehorse. Circumstantial and personal information seem to confirm this (submitted by David Byard).

RUSSIA COMMEMORATIVE COINS

An interesting website is http://www.cbr.ru/eng/bank-notes_coins/Base_of_memorable_coins. You can see all commemoratives from Russia from 1992 to 2005. There are many that are arctic related.

ANTARCTIC TREASURE



This has to be one of the neatest Antarctic items to ever appear on eBay. We will quote from the seller's description:

"British National Antarctic Expedition ~ S.Y. Morning

"Ebony cross medallion with 14K gold circular plaque set with 14K gold suspension ring. Front inscribed "National Antarctic Expedition S. Y. Morning". The image on the front depicts a penguin standing on an ice shelf with a rising sun in the background. Reverse side is also 14K gold and ornately inscribed with "B.W. from R.G.A.E." Cross in "Victoria Cross" style approximately 1" square. An attractive and Very Rare memento of the Morning relief expedition to Scott's Discovery Expedition 1902-04.

"Rupert George A. England was First Officer of the Morning, and later Captain of the Nimrod during Shackleton's "Farthest South" expedition – this medallion, with its dedication, was most likely gifted by Captain England. Very Rare and Unique.

"Morning was the first relief ship of the Discovery Expedition, leaving London on August 2, 1902 and arriving at Cape Crozier January 18, 1903 where she found letters from Scott. Continuing through the pack ice to within 10 miles of Discovery, she off loaded coal and other stores and then proceeded to New Zealand to meet the next relief ship, Terra Nova."

Price Realized was \$1325.

Enlarged to the right to show details.

